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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL
USES OF OUTER SPACE
Legal Subcommittee
Thirty-sixth session
Vienna, 1-18 April 1997

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session.

2. Statement by the Chairman.

3. Question of review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space.*

4. Matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space and to the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union.*

5. Other matters.

*The General Assembly, in paragraph 4 of its resolution 51/123, endorsed the recommendations of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that the Legal Subcommittee, at its thirty-sixth session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, particularly those of developing countries, should continue its consideration of items 3 and 4, considering item 4 through its working group. The Assembly, in paragraph 5 of the same resolution, also endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the Legal Subcommittee should suspend consideration in its working group of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space pending the results of the work in the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, without prejudice to the possibility of reconvening its working group on that item if, in the opinion of the Legal Subcommittee, sufficient progress was made in the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its session in 1997 to warrant the reconvening of the working group.

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Annex

INDICATIVE SCHEDULES OF WORK

1. The General Assembly, in paragraph 7 of its resolution 51/123, endorsed the recommendations and agreements concerning the organization of work in the Legal Subcommittee. The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its thirty-ninth session (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/51/20, para. 213)), recalled its recommendation that the Legal Subcommittee, on a permanent basis, should rotate each year the order of consideration of substantive agenda items. The Committee, however, endorsed the recommendation of the Legal Subcommittee that the order of rotation should be suspended for the 1997 session and that those items should be considered in the same order as in 1996 (items 4 and 3).

2. The Committee, at its thirty-ninth session (A/51/20, para. 214), took note of the measures that had been adopted initially by the Legal Subcommittee at its thirty-first session as well as additional measures agreed for the next session of the Subcommittee in order to improve the utilization of conference services. The Committee endorsed the agreement of the Legal Subcommittee (A/AC.105/639 and Corr.1, para. 13) that a similar organization of work would serve as the basis for organizing the work of the Subcommittee at its thirty-sixth session (A/51/20, para. 214).

3. The Committee, at its thirty-eighth session, agreed that the practice of allocating specific agenda items to particular meetings at a session should be ended and that, to assist in their planning, Member States would continue to be provided with an indicative schedule of work, which would be without prejudice to the actual timing of consideration of specific agenda items (A/50/20, para. 169 (b)). The Committee also agreed that agenda items should be considered consecutively and be considered closed after the list of speakers on any particular item had been exhausted and that the Chairman might propose that items could be suspended to allow additional discussion at future meetings (A/50/20, para. 169 (c)).

4. In accordance with established practice, some time in the first part of the session should be allocated for a general exchange of views. The Legal Subcommittee, at its 1995 session (A/AC.105/607 and Corr.1, para. 52), recommended that delegations taking part in such a general exchange should limit their statements to views on general legal and policy issues concerning the current and future work of the Subcommittee.

5. The Committee recommended that the Legal Subcommittee, at its 1997 session, should continue its open-ended informal consultations with a view to coming up with a list of annotated items agreed upon by consensus that could be considered by the Committee at its fortieth session for possible inclusion in the agenda of the Subcommittee (A/51/20, para. 152 and para. 211 (c)). The Committee further agreed that each proposed item should have a multi-year work plan that would address, among other things, the objectives of the work to be undertaken, any reports to be provided by the Secretariat and Member States and the possible end-product (A/51/20, para. 152).

6. The Legal Subcommittee agreed at its 1996 session (A/AC.105/639 and Corr.1, para. 15 (a)) that, at its session in 1997, less time should be allocated for the consideration of agenda item 3 than for the consideration of agenda item 4.

7. The General Assembly, in paragraph 13 of its resolution 51/123, noted that, in accordance with the agreement of the Committee at its thirty-ninth session (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/51/20, para. 186)), the Chairman of the Committee undertook and will continue to hold, as necessary, inter-sessional informal consultations among the members of the Committee with a view to reaching consensus decisions before the fortieth session of the Committee on the modalities of establishing

a new composition of bureaux, keeping in view the principles of equitable geographic representation and rotation, and that all proposals made by delegations and groups of delegations, including the need for agenda restructuring and an examination of session duration, were taken into account in the framework of those informal consultations.

8. Indicative schedules of work for periods of three weeks and two weeks are given in tables 1 and 2.

Table 1. Three-week indicative schedule of work

Date	*Morning*	*Afternoon*
Tuesday, 1 April	Opening of the session; statement by the Chairman	Definition/geostationary orbit
Wednesday, 2 April	Definition/geostationary orbit	Definition/geostationary orbit
Thursday, 3 April	Definition/geostationary orbit	Open-ended informal consultations[a]
Friday, 4 April	Definition/geostationary orbit	Inter-sessional consultations[b]
Monday, 7 April	Definition/geostationary orbit	Definition/geostationary orbit
Tuesday, 8 April	Definition/geostationary orbit	Open-ended informal consultations
Wednesday, 9 April	Definition/geostationary orbit	Definition/geostationary orbit
Thursday, 10 April	Nuclear power sources	Open-ended informal consultations
Friday, 11 April	Nuclear power sources	Nuclear power sources
Monday, 14 April	Nuclear power sources	Open-ended informal consultations
Tuesday, 15 April	Other matters	Open-ended informal consultations
Wednesday, 16 April	Reserved for preparation of the draft report by the Secretariat	Adoption of the report of the working group on definition/ geostationary orbit
Friday, 18 April	Adoption of the report of the Subcommittee	Adoption of the report of the Subcommittee

[a]See annex paragraph 5.

[b]See annex paragraph 7.

Table 2. Two-week indicative schedule of work[a]

Date	*Morning*	*Afternoon*
Tuesday, 1 April	Opening of the session; statement by the Chairman	Definition/geostationary orbit
Wednesday, 2 April	Definition/geostationary orbit	Definition/geostationary orbit
Thursday, 3 April	Definition/geostationary orbit	Open-ended informal consultations[b]
Friday, 4 April	Definition/geostationary orbit	Inter-sessional consultations[c]
Monday, 7 April	Definition/geostationary orbit	Nuclear power sources
Tuesday, 8 April	Nuclear power sources	Open-ended informal consultations
Wednesday, 9 April	Other matters	Reserved for preparation of the draft report by the Secretariat
Thursday, 10 April	Adoption of the report of the working group on definition/ geostationary orbit	Adoption of the report of the Subcommittee
Friday, 11 April	Adoption of the report of the Subcommittee	

[a]The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its thirty-ninth session (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/51/20, para. 217)), stated that:

> "In accordance with paragraph 12 (k) of the report of the Legal Subcommittee (A/AC.105/639), every effort would be made to conclude the session of the Legal Subcommittee as early as practicable, the goal being to conclude the session in two weeks."

Accordingly, to assist Member States in their planning, a two-week indicative schedule of work is also provided.

[b]See annex paragraph 5.

[c]See annex paragraph 7.